

Super-Quick Colleges Shatter

Feeble Wanderers

PLAYING without their skipper and inspiration Paul Bates and the classy Dave Thomas—both of whom were on tour with Maidenhead—Wycombe Wanderers gave a depressing display to end one of their most disappointing seasons for many years, by losing the Wycombe Hospital Cup to the lively Loughborough Collegs side, 4-1, writes Nova.

It was apparent from the start that the younger and obviously much fitter Loughborough side were not going to be very worried by the Wanderers' somewhat feeble attacks.

It took them only three minutes to score. Centre-forward Ken Bowron lured big John Fisher from the middle and promptly lobbed the ball down the gap in the centre of the Wycombe defence for powerful inside-left Brian Moore to smash the ball home from close range.

Ten minutes later Loughborough repeated the move, More again being the scorer.

Up to this point the only worthwhile shots from Wycombe had come from Beck, James and Atkins — all defenders — whose tendency to wander up into the attack might have contributed to the visitors' first two goals.

Loughborough continued to puzzle the Wanderers with their

swift running and first-time passing and they scored a third goal five minutes after their second, through Ken Bowron.

When at last the Wycombe attack managed to penetrate the sturdy and strong-tackling Loughborough defence, Mick Rockell scored with a neat header after a bout of inter-passing by Worley and Ashby.

But just to underline their superiority, Loughborough five minutes later scored their fourth goal, through right-winger Raybould.

That the Wanderers did not get a bigger hiding than Mexico had received at the hands of England was mainly due to good work by John Fisher and Alistair Lewis, perhaps Wycombe's 'find' of the season, who completely subdued the stocky College winger Brimacombe, and there was no further scoring in the second half, al-

though Ashby missed three good chances.

For Wycombe, Rockell, once again playing at centre-forward, led an unimpressive forward line with great gusto but both Trott and Tomlin lacked drive and Ashby although given many opportunities, was unable once to test the Loughborough goalkeeper Wilson. And Worley had one of his poorest days of the season.

NO HAPPY MEDIUM

Peter James looked a better half-back than John Beck, but like Beck he fails to achieve a happy medium between attacking and defending and was often stranded up in attack instead of helping to defend. Atkins again appeared too casual in his play, brilliant one minute and disappointing the next.

So the season ends, as it started, with a defeat. But I think supporters can view next season with much greater confidence. For with the versatile Bates, the speedy Rockell, the classy Thomas, the much-improved Fisher and the new discovery, Lewis, the Wanderers have the nucleus of a good team.